

**ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

Signals representative of current and voltage in a circuit are processed and compared with stored temporal models representative of arc faults and events not associated with arc faults. The models may be templates or stochastic models. Alternatively, the processed signals may be supplied to an artificial neural net programmed to recognize features of different arcs. An output may be provided to open a circuit breaker when an arc fault is detected.

10082170-022602